



3

The Severing Crime Edge

TATSUHIKO-HIKAGI





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Tatsuhiko Hikagi

the SEVERING CRIME EDGE

cut 13

YEAH...
I'VE
GOT TO
DO MY
BEST...

ARE
YOU...
ARE YOU
ALL
RIGHT?!

KIRI...
KIRI!

...I'M
FINE.

THEY
WEREN'T
ACTUALLY
TRYING TO
KILL ME.

AN...

...TO
MAKE UP
FOR
MAKING
HER
WORRY.

...SO
CALM
DOWN.

...I'M
FINE...

BUT...



cut13:"Strawberry Jam"





... HERE
I GO!

cut 13: "Strawberry Jam"







THE
QUEEN
YOU'RE
SO
DESPER-
ATE TO
KILL IS
AN
ORDINARY
GIRL TO
ME.

LOOK!
NO
HAIR IS
UNCUT-
TABLE.

A
COMPLETELY
REGULAR
GIRL.



SO...

JUST
A BIT.

...I
JUST
WANT
TO CUT
HER
HAIR.



...
STOP
...

...
BOTH-
ERING
ME.





YOU WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ACT NORMALLY IN FRONT OF SOMEONE WITH A KNIFE, RIGHT?

SO... LOOK.

YOU WOULD COWER, YOUR HEART WOULD START TO POUND, AND YOU WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO THINK PROPERLY.



NOT SCARY AT ALL.

...A TOY LIKE THIS?



BUT WHAT IF THAT WEAPON ...

WAS...



NEVER MIND THAT.

...YOU AREN'T GOOD AT MAKING THINGS.



IT FORCIBLY LOWERS A PERSON'S LEVEL OF FEAR TO ZERO.

TO PUT IT SIMPLY, A KILLING TOOL FORCES YOUR THOUGHTS TO CHANGE.









...NO ONE
WILL EVER
LOVE ME.

IF I DO
NOT...



WITH
YOUR
DEATH,
I WILL
MAKE MY
WISH
COME
TRUE.

...THAT
MISERABLE
FEELING OF
NOT BEING
THE STAR
OF THE
SCHOOL
ARTS
FESTIVAL.

YOU WERE
BORN A
QUEEN, SO
YOU WOULD
NOT
UNDERSTAND
...







DO NOT
THINK OF
ME AS A
MERE
PUPPET
LIKE THE
OTHERS...

...I HAVE
RECEIVED
RUKA'S
LASHINGS
ALMOST
EVERY
NIGHT.



GRICK

THIS
POWER

...HE'S
CRACKING...
MY
SKILL...!

PRESIDENT
...?!

GRICK



HAS BEEN
STRENGTH-
ENED
BY THE
POWER OF
HER TOOL..

THIS
BODY...

CLENCH





...MAKE
ME
FALTER
RIGHT
NOW.

THAT
IS NOT
ENOUGH
TO...



SHING

I'LL KEEP
CUTTING
UNTIL YOU
LET GO...!

THEN...!



...A NORMAL
HUMAN
BEING CAN
DEFEAT A
MURDERER?

DO YOU
REALLY
THINK...







A black and white manga panel showing two characters. On the left, a character with dark, curly hair and a dark top looks towards the right. On the right, a character with long, light-colored hair and a dark jacket with a white collar looks back. A large, jagged exclamation mark is visible on the right side of the panel.

**...THAT'S
MY LINE.**

A black and white manga panel featuring a close-up of a character with long, light-colored hair. The character has a wide-eyed, shouting expression with their mouth open. Two speech bubbles are positioned on either side of the character's head.

**...BUT
YOU TRIED
TO KILL
IWAII!**

**I DON'T
KNOW HOW
SERIOUS
YOU ARE...**

A black and white manga panel showing a character wearing a dark hooded cloak. The character has a wide-eyed, shouting expression with their mouth open. Two speech bubbles are positioned on either side of the character's head.

**THE
QUEEN IS
DESTINED
TO DIE FOR
THE SAKE
OF AN
AUTHOR!**

**YOU
SHOULD
ALSO
BE
DRAWN
BY...
...THE
DESIRE
TO KILL
THE
QUEEN!**

A black and white manga panel showing two characters from the chest up. On the left, a character with dark hair and a dark top looks down. On the right, a character with long, light-colored hair and a dark jacket with a white collar looks down.

**ISN'T
THAT
RIGHT?!**



DID YOU
ENJOY THE
ORIENTEER-
ING?

...IWAI.



EVERY-
THING
WAS NEW
TO ME.

EATING
CURRY
TOGETHER.

TALKING
AT NIGHT
BEFORE
GOING TO
SLEEP...

YEAH!

...Y--

...REALLY
ENJOYED
THIS
TRIP...!

I...

I CAN'T
LET THAT
BE TAKEN
AWAY BY
SOME SO-
CALLED
"FATE."

SQUEE ZE

...SHE
JUST
WANTS A
NORMAL
LIFE.

IF YOU
CAN'T
ALLOW
THAT...

....I'LL
FACE YOU
WHENEVER
YOU'D
LIKE.







...FEEL
THAT THE
ONE WE
SHOULD
KILL IS
SOMEONE
ELSE...

...YET
BOTH THE
RULE-
BOOK AND
I...

I WAS
GOING TO KILL
HER IF SHE
SHOWED ANY
MURDEROUS
INTENT IN HER
BATTLE WITH
"CRIME EDGE."



I CAME
HERE TO
TAKE CARE
OF THE
"PET WHIP."



THAT
R...

...WHAT
DOES
THIS
MEAN?





cut 14

I AM
THE
VAN-
GUARD.

YOU
ARE THE
REAR
GUARD.

YET I HAD
THOUGHT
YOU WERE DOING
SO BECAUSE
YOU HAD NO
CHOICE.

I
THOUGHT
THAT
WOULD BE
ENOUGH.

...?!

...YET...
KEH HEH
HEH.

THAT YOU'D
BEEN
CRAGGED
INTO THE RATS
OF MURDER
AGAINST YOUR
WILL.

WE HAVE
THE SAME
OBJECTIVE
PROTECT
THE 'FLAG'
IN THIS
LITTLE
GAME OF
OURS.

...THIS
GRUESOME
SITUATION.

...YOU
SEEM
TO BE
ENJOYING
...

JERK



cut 14: "Waltz of the Stars"

NAME

PET WHIP OF
SUBMISSIVE BUTCHERY

LIMIT

KILLING TOOL

AUTHOR



!IRUKA SHIHODO

(ORIGINAL)

"MASTER OF PIGS"
LADY SHIHODO

SKILL

! STRONGER
WHIPS

! WHIP
TRAINING

TIPS

ADJUST VALUE. A
FEW HITS WITH THE
WHIP WILL PLACE
THEM UNDER
CONTROL. HOWEVER,
ONLY SIMPLE
COMMANDS CAN BE
USED ONCE YOU HAVE
CONTROL OF THEM

**SEIGI
NAKAJIMAAAAA!**

GAH...

GO AWAY!
IT
MESSES
THINGS
UP IF
YOU ARE
AROUND!

KOTAKURA
...

QUIETLY
TURN
YOURSELF
IN TO THE
POLICE!

I WON'T
LET YOU
COMMIT A
CRIME
WHILE
I'M
AROUND!

NOT MY
PROBLEM!
YOU'RE
THE ONE
BEING
BAD!

AAAH
?!

BANG!

HONESTLY,
I DON'T
KNOW
MUCH
ABOUT
THE
KILLING
TOOLS!

BUT ARE
YOU
DOING
ALL OF
THIS
JUST
BECAUSE
YOU
WANT TO
LOOK
COOL?!

NO.

I'LL
SENTENCE
YOU FOR
DISTURBING
THE
PEACE...

HEY!
DON'T
LEAVE IT
ON. TURN
OFF THE
PHONE.

...YOU
KNOW
THAT'S
NOT
ENOUGH
TO KILL
ME.

KOTAKURA
TOLD YOU
ABOUT THE
"CONDITIONS"
...

NO
MURDERS,
NO
KILLING!

YOU
AREN'T A
SUPERHERO!

STOP
BEING SO
NARCISSISTIC
!!











THAT
MEANS IT'S
ALL OVER
ONCE HER
"PUPPETS"
ARE
DEFEATED.

...THAT WHIP...
THERE'S
NOTHING
SPECIAL
ABOUT ITS
DEADLINESS.



I
GUESS...
IT'S
WEIRD
FOR ME
TO SAY
THIS,
BUT...

...HE'S
HURT
BADLY...



...
IS THE
PRESIDENT
...ALL
RIGHT?



UH...
UWM...





FEELING
MISERABLE
AFTER THE
ROLE OF THE
PRINCESS
WAS TAKEN
AWAY FROM
ME IN THE
SCHOOL
FESTIVAL

...
CHILDHOOD
MEMORIES.

SO
SHE
ENTICED
ALL THE
BOYS
TO VOTE
FOR
HER.
IT WAS
JUST A
GAME.

ROMIO
WAS THE
POPULAR
ONE...
I WAS
JUST HIS
CHILDHOOD
FRIEND.

THE MOST
POPULAR
GIRL IN
CLASS DID
NOT LIKE
THAT.

...I
WENT
THROUGH
A
SUBTLE...

...TET
DEEP
DESPAIR...

...EVEN
ROMIO
JOINED
IN.

LATER,
WHEN I
FOUND
THE
TOOLS...

...I MADE
A CHOICE.





THEN I
COULD
MAKE
SOMEONE
WHO
WOULD
TRULY
LOVE ME!

THEN
WITH THE
QUEEN'S
DEATH, I
COULD
BECOME
A TRUE
RULER.

THE
PET WHIP
GAVE ME
TEMPORARY
DOMINATION.



...THE
SAME
UNSIGHTLY
PLACE
AS
BEFORE...!

THAT'S
WHAT I
THOUGHT...!
BUT I'M
BACK TO THE
SAME
UNGRACEFUL
...



OH...
OH...



...BE A
PRINCESS...

I'LL...
NEVER...



...
CRIME EDGE
IS CRUEL...



YOU
HAVE
BEAUTI-
FUL
RED
HAIR.

...TO SAY
THAT YOUR
HAIR IS
COVERED
WITH SPLIT
ENDS.



I
ALWAYS
...

AND THAT
NATURAL
WAVE
YOU'VE
ALWAYS
HAD.

...LOVED
IT...





YOU
SHOULD
PUSH ME
TO FIGHT
HARDER...

...RUKA,
YOU
ARE SO
SWEET.

...DON'T
SAY
THAT
NOW...



...YOU
GUYS
WIN...

I
GUESS...
WITH
RUKA
LIKE
THIS...



I HEARD
THE REST
FROM THE
PROFESSOR.

...AND
THUS THE
FIGHTING
ENDED.

...IT
MADE
ME
THINK.

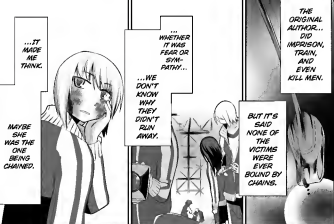
...
WHETHER
IT WAS
FEAR OR
SYM-
PATHY...

THE
ORIGINAL
AUTHOR...
DID
IMPRISON,
TRAIN,
AND
EVEN
KILL MEN.

...WE
DON'T
KNOW
WHY
THEY
DIDN'T
RUN
AWAY.

BUT IT'S
SAID
NONE OF
THE
VICTIMS
WERE
EVER
BOUND BY
CHAINS.

MAYBE
SHE
WAS THE
ONE
BEING
CHAINED.



THE...

...THE
STAR-
GAZING
...!

IS IT
OVER
?!

HUH...
IWAH?!

I WANTED
TO SEE IT
TOO...

IT ENDED
A LONG
TIME AGO...
WHERE
WERE
YOU?

OHHHH...
NO WAY.

IT WAS
PRETTY
CLOUDY
TODAY,
BUT I
WAS
EARLY!





IT
SEEMED
UP SO
WE CAN
SEE THEM

...SO?
HOW
DOES IT
FEEL TO
WATCH
THE
STARS?
THINK
YOU
MIGHT
BE
ENJOY-
ING IT?

HMM...

...HMM...



**I
SEE.**

HA
HA
HA...
...I
WISH WE
COULD
HAVE
SEEN IT
WITH
THE
OTHERS.
THEN IT
WOULD'VE
BEEN
MORE
LIVELY
AND FUN...



HM?
IT'S NO
PROBLEM
...

I
DRAGGED
YOU INTO
SO MUCH
TODAY...
SORRY TO
TROUBLE
YOU.

...SORRY,
KIRI.



...INVITE
ME?

I
WANTED TO
INVITE YOU
LAST NIGHT,
BUT YOU
LEFT...

...SO I
WONDERED
HOW I'D
...

...HUH?

...BUT I
GET TO
SEE THE
STARS
LIKE THIS
WITH
YOU.

SO I
GUESS
IT'S ALL
RIGHT.



...IT'S
PRETTY.

...YEAH.

"IT'S
MORE LIKE
IT'S...
WARM."

"I
WOULDN'T
CALL IT
FUN..."

SHALLOO
TUTU
.....

SHALLOO
TUTU
.....









cut15: "Coins on a Scale"







THESE
ARE
GOSSIP
COINS.

THEY'RE
KIND OF
LIKE AN
I.D. CARD.



THAT'S
WHAT I
THOUGHT...



...YEAH,
WE GOT
THE SAME
THING.

...TO
GO TO
ONE OF
GOSSIP'S
PARTIES
...

THERE
WAS
ALSO AN
INVITATION
FOR US...





...I CAN'T
BELIEVE
YOU TWO
ARE
ALWAYS
TOGETHER.



WHY
ARE
YOU IN
SUCH
A BAD
MOOD?
DID US
SEEING
YOU
WITH
YOUR
FRIENDS
BOTHER
YOU
SO...



SO THAT
I COULD
FORGET
ABOUT IT
DURING
THE DAY,
AT LEAST.

I
CHANGED
SCHOOLS
...

I HATE
HAVING TO
THINK
ABOUT
BEING AN
INSTEAD
EVERY DAY.



YET YOU
TWO DON'T
CARE AND
ACT ALL
LOVEY-
DOVEY.







PROBABLY
WON'T
CARE
ABOUT
US.



UM...
HOUND
...?

OH...



...!

I'M NOT
SURE
WHAT I
SHOULD
WEAR.

ARE
THERE
ANY
GUIDE-
LINES
FOR...
WHAT WE
SHOULD
WEAR...?

THE...
PARTY...



...IT'S
ABOUT
CLOTHES.

I DOUBT
KIRI
WOULD
KNOW...



WHY
ARE YOU
ASKING
ME?





...BEFORE
I MET
KIRI.

AND...

EVEN
THE OTHER
DAY,
DURING
THE ORIEN-
TEERING.

THAT'S--

...BUT...
YOU
HELPED
US.



...BUT...
YOU
BROUGHT
ME
THINGS.

YOU
WERE
SCARY
THEN,
BUT...



...EVEN
THEN!

...THE
PROFES-
SOR
TOLD ME
TO...



...IT
MADE ME
HAPPY...

BUT FOR
SOMEONE...
WHO HAD NO
FRIENDS OF
THE SAME
AGE...

YOU
BARELY
TALKED
TO ME.



I DID
HORRIBLE
THINGS
TO YOU.

I FELT
SORRY
FOR YOU,
BUT I
STILL
PULLED
YOUR
HAIR.

I
TRIED
SO
HARD
TO
MAKE
YOU
HATE
ME.



...NO.



...I'VE
BECOME
FRIENDS
WITH
YAMANE.



SO...



...SORRY.

SORRY.

I'M
SORRY...



BUT...

...I'M
BECOMING
ATTACHED
TO YOU...!





...YAMANE.



I'LL
ASK THE PROFESSOR
FOR A
NEW ONE
FOR MYSELF.

I'WAI
SAID
SHE'LL
ASK FOR
ME AS
WELL.

I'VE
DECIDED
TO LEND
HER MY
OLD
FORMAL
DRESS.

...THAT
WAS A
LONG
CALL..

...I
SEE.

THAT'S
NICE.



cut 16

WHY
ARE
YOU SO
TENSE?

HEY,
KIRI!

SNIP

YOU'VE
HAD SUCH
A SERIOUS
LOOK ON
YOUR FACE
FOR A
WHILE NOW.

YEAH.

DONE

OH?

DO I
SEEM
THAT
WAY?

S-
SORRY...

I'M GOING
OUT OF MY
WAY TO CUT
YOUR HAIR, SO
YOU SHOULD
BE MORE
GRATEFUL...

HOPE IT
ISN'T A
DATE

THE
PARTY IS
TODAY...

...I MIGHT
BE MORE
STRESSED
THAN
USUAL...

COMING
HERE
JUST TO
GET HIS
HAIR
TIED UP
WHEN THE
SHOP'S
CLOSED...
THIS...

RUSSLE



W-WHY
DO I
HAVE TO
HEAR
THAT
FROM
YOU?

NO
CLUE

BUT I
WON'T
ALLOW
IT!

I-I
DON'T
KNOW
WHERE
YOU'RE
GOING.



IT
REMINDS
ME OF...

...IT
BOTHERS
ME.



...IT
BOTHERS
ME...

...THE
FIRST
TIME YOU
CAME
HERE.





cut16: "Wondering Wheel"









THAT
SUR-
PRISED
ME...

WHOA.



HE'S
THE GUY
FROM
KOTARO'S
CLASS.

HUH.

KOTARO
DID
MENTION
THAT HE
TOLD HIM
ABOUT
US.

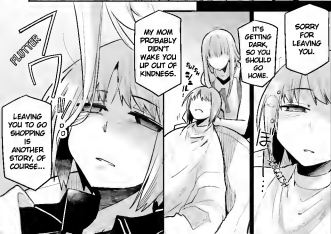


POOPY
N
...



I SEE...
HE FELL
ASLEEP SO
SHE DIDN'T
WAKE HIM
UP.

THEN
JUST
WAKE
HIM UP.







SORRY
...

...I
WON'T...
DO
ANYTHING
...

HUH...





...PLEASE
BE GRATEFUL.

I HAVEN'T
TOLD
ANYONE
ABOUT IT
'TIL NOW.







...YOU
ARE...

...
OKAY...
RIGHT
?



...IT
FELT LIKE
YOU WERE
BEING
CON-
TROLLED...

...BY
SOME-
THING
ELSE.



IN THE
DARK,
YOU WERE
ALMOST
LIKE
SOMEONE
ELSE.



...UM.

SORRY.

BUT...
I STILL
REMEM-
BER.









...HERE.

YOU'RE
...



JUST
BE READY TO
BE OBSERVED
CAREFULLY BY
THE HIGH-
LIPS WHO
ENJOY DOING
THAT AS A
HOBBY.



OTHER
THAN
THAT,
ENJOY
THE FOOD
AND
DRINKS.



OH...

.....



BOO
IT."

OH

...HEY,
KIRI.

WAAA













...KIRI
HAIMURA.

IWAI
MUSHANO-
KOJI.

...TWO
OF US.





WE WILL
FIND OUT
HERE...



...THE
MEANING
OF WHAT
WE HOLD...

...AND WHO
IT IS WE
SHOULD
OPPOSE.

cut 17

I WILL
NOT
LISTEN
TO THE
WORDS
OF A
WITCH.

YOU LIVE
DEEP IN THE
FOREST
WHERE
YOU
PRACTICE
YOUR
DUBIOUS
SPELLS.

SO
BEAUTIFUL,
I'M
ENVOIOUS.

OH.
WHAT
FRIGHT-
FULLY
BLACK
HAIR.

YOU
JEST, MY
QUEEN.

YOURS
IS MUCH
BETTER
THAN
MINE.

I AM
JUST A
VILLAGE
GIRL.







cut17: "Party Chopper"





AND
TO YOUR
DESCEN-
DANTS.

WHETHER
THEY WANT
IT OR NOT...

SO...



"BLACK
HAIR."

"QUEEN."



YEAH...

THIS
PLAY IS
ABOUT
ME...



AS I
AM PART
OF THIS
ORGANIZATION,
I CANNOT
HELP BUT
BELIEVE
IT.

...THIS
FAIRYTALE
SEEMS
FAKE TO
ME...



YES,
BUT I
KNOW
THAT
THEY...



YOU JUST...
THE TOOLS
SOUND MORE
BELIEVABLE
THAN THIS.

BUT
AREN'T
THE TOOLS
MORE
OCCULT-
LIKE?

AH,
YOU DO
LIKE
MYSTERY
NOVELS.



I
IMAGINED
THIS TO
BE AN EVIL
SECRET
SOCIETY.

う
ん
うん
うん
NON
NON

IS
IT
GOOD?

...IT
SEEMS
...

...THAT
NONE OF
THEM
KNOW
ABOUT
EVERYTHING
...

...
YEAH...



SHE
ORDERED
ALL BLACK-
HAIR-
ED WOMEN
TO BE
KILLED...

...SINCE
THEN, THE
QUEEN HAS
CHANGED
COMPLETELY.



NOTHING
COULD STOP
HER FROM
GOING
INSANE.

THE
CHILD SHE
CARRIED WAS
STILLBORN,
CHOKED BY
ITS OWN
HAIR.

THE
QUEEN'S
HAIR CAN
NO
LONGER
BE CUT.

...IT MUST
BE THAT
WITCH'S
CURSE.





WH-WHY AM I DRESSED LIKE THIS...?

...A DEMON CHILD?

OH WHY?

I DO NOT KNOW WHAT THE HOST HAS PLANNED...

WELL... WE ARE JUST EMPLOYEES OF THE HOTEL.

WHAT IS THIS ACTUALLY FOR...?

...WAIT... IS THIS...

AREN'T YOU TWO... THE ACTORS FOR THE NEXT PLAY?

WHAT?

THE STAGE...

OH...

Finger もじもじ



SEIGI
NAKAJIMA...
"RULEBOOK.."

WERE
YOU THE
ONE WHO
INVITED
US HERE?



...I...

...DIDN'T
THINK
YOU'D
COME.





SO WE HAD
THE CHOICE
OF NOT
COMING?

I THOUGHT
YOU WOULD
RUN AWAY,
SCARED.

YOU
ARE
QUITE
THOUGHT-
LESS.



...I DIDN'T
THINK SO,
EITHER...
AND...



...IT
WAS A
FORMAL
DRESS
PARTY...

I MAY HAVE
BEEN
SUSPICIOUS,
BUT PART OF
ME JUST
WANTED TO
GO...







I LONG
FOR AN
ENEMY...

OH.



I
WANT TO
DISPLAY MY
POWER.



BUT
I LONG
FOR A
STRONGER
ENEMY.

THE
AUTHORS,
THOUGH
FEW IN
NUMBER,
HAVE
APPEASED
ME FOR A
WHILE.

WITH
THIS
POWER
...
...PETTY
CRIMINALS
ARE BUT
MERE
BABES.



YET
IT IS NOT
ENOUGH.

KILLING
ONE HAS
GIVEN
ME A
FEELING
OF
FULFILL-
MENT
LIKE NO
OTHER.

A
STRONG
POWER.

HE SAID
HE WOULD
PROTECT
THE
QUEEN.

CRACK

I HAVE
HEARD
THAT THERE
IS A TOOL
IN THE
FORM OF
SCISSORS.

...
JUST TO
PROTECT
HIS OWN
DESIRES
TO CUT
THE
HAIR HE
LIKES.

PHOOM

NOW,
HE SEEMS
TO BE
INSPIRED
TO FIGHT...

JERK

HE HAS
ACCEPTED
THE
ROLE OF
HURTING
THOSE
WHO
WOULD
ATTACK
...

BUT
IS THAT
ENOUGH
FOR JUST
CAUSE?



PERFECT
FOR A
CRIMINAL
LIKE YOU.

FINISH

A
HORRIBLE
INTERRO-
GATION.

TO CHOOSE
TO USE THE
POWER OF A
MURDERER...

...TO ME,
THAT IS
THE
MOST
SERIOUS
CRIME OF
ALL.

A black and white manga panel showing a character with short, dark hair and a serious expression. They are wearing a dark jacket over a striped shirt and are sitting cross-legged, reading an open book. The background is a textured, stippled grey.

BUT IF YOU HAVE THE SLIGHTEST DOUBT ABOUT YOUR ABILITY TO DO SO...

IF YOU CAN REFUTE ME, DO IT QUICKLY.

THAT IS WHY I'VE COME HERE.

A black and white manga panel showing three characters behind vertical bars. On the left, a character with a large, shaggy white beard is seen from the back. In the center, a character with dark hair is looking forward. On the right, a character with long dark hair and a headband is looking towards the center. The bars are vertical and run across the panel.

SAY THAT HE'S WRONG!

KIRI! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

...KIRI!

A black and white manga panel showing a close-up of a character with long dark hair and a headband. They have a surprised or concerned expression, with wide eyes and a slightly open mouth. The background is a textured, stippled grey.

HUH

KIRI IS DOING IT TO PROTECT ME--

A black and white manga panel showing a close-up of a hand holding a book. The hand is wearing a dark sleeve with a striped pattern. The book is open, and the pages are visible. The background is a textured, stippled grey.

TEST



...THE
CURTAIN'S
BEING
LIFTED.











CLANG





I'M NOT
BEING
SUSPENDED
IN THE AIR,
SO I STILL
HAVE A
CHANCE.



I'LL
PULL
THE
ROPE
MYSELF
...!



GRIS!
GRIS!
GRIS!

BUT I
ONLY
HAVE A
LITTLE
AIR LEFT.



PANT

I
HAVE...

...ONLY
A FEW
MORE
SECONDS
...!





















BANG





TH-THE
CURTAIN
DROPPED
?!

HUH
...?



KI-
KIRI...



ARE
YOU
ALIVE
...?

BUT...
BUT...



KIRI...!

THERE'S
NO ROPE...
BECAUSE
HE WAS
TRYING TO
USE IT ON
SOMEONE
ELSE...?





WAIT
AND SEE...
I'LL GET
MYSELF
BACK
TOGETHER...

WHAT
...?

DANN...

SUTHER

I HEARD
YOU WERE
SHUNNED BY
THE POLICE
YOU CLAIMED
TO HELP.

...RULE-
ROCK.



THAT'S
GONNA
A BIT...
TOO FAR.

IT SOUNDS
LIKE YOU EVEN
TOOK IT UPON
YOURSELF TO
KILL CRIMINALS
THAT HADN'T
BEEN
ASSIGNED TO
YOU.



QUITE
YOUNG
TO BE
CALLED
A LADY.

...SO IT
WAS
YOU.







DAMN...



UGH...











SHE...
HAD SOME
PAWN OF
AN AUTHOR
TRY TO
KILL ME.

FROM
THE LOOKS
OF THINGS,
ANYWAY...



I DON'T
KNOW
HOW TO
PROVIDE
FIRST
AID...

...WHAT
SHOULD
I DO?



YOU
SHOULD
BE MORE
EXCITED.

...
YOU
IDIOT.



YOU
SEEMED TO
HATE ME
FROM THE
BEGINNING.

DON'T
FEEL SORRY
FOR ME
BECAUSE
IT'S THE
END.







THE SEVERING CRIME EDGE

cut 18

...TOUGH
NIGHT,
HUH?

Green Room



I'D
JUST LIKE
TO ASK
A FEW
QUESTIONS.

WE'VE
CLEANED
UP THE
SCENE.

THE POLICE
...
...ARE
HERE.



cut18: "Lyrical Night Flight"

NAME

RULEBOOK OF SENTENCING
AND EXECUTION

UNIT

KILLING TOOL

AUTHOR



! SEIGI NAKAJIMA

(ORIGINAL)

"BARBARIAN OF THE LAW"
GARIBALDI

SKILL

! CONDITIONAL
KILLING



TIPS

1. THE KILLING
CONDITIONAL ARE
SATISFIED CAN
BE SENTENCED TO
HANG. 1. THE
TARGET HAS
COMMITTED A
SERIOUS CRIME
(BASED UPON THE
CONSCIENCE OF THE
AUTHOR.) 2. THE
TARGET MUST BE
CAUGHT IN THE ACT
OR THERE MUST BE
ENOUGH EVIDENCE

RETIRE



THE PLAY CONTINUES,
YOU
KNOW?

QUEEN
ZEWULFA
WENT
INSANE.

TAO



...HURT
THEM...

...LAUGH...

...AND
TORTURE
THEM.



HER
BEHAVIOR
GOT WORSE
AS TIME
WENT BY,
AND SHE
WOULD...

WHenever
she saw a
black-haired
woman, she'd
say it was
the witch
and execute
her.

7



SHE
ENJOYED THE
SLAUGHTER...
AND
EVENTUALLY
SHE WISHED
IT WOULD
CONTINUE
FOREVER.

...THE QUEEN
HERSELF
BECAME A
MURDERER.

THIS IS
HOW THE
SYSTEM
OF THE
QUEEN
AND THE
TOOLS
CAME TO
BE.

GOSSIP
HAS BEEN
IN CONTROL
OF IT SINCE
THEN.

...VIOLET
WITCHY...

...SO
YOU'RE...

...I'M
SORRY.

...I DID
AN AWFUL
THING TO
HIM.



...YES.

I
REALLY
THINK
SO.

I DO
SYMPATHIZE
WITH THE
CIRCUM-
STANCES
SURROUNDING
THE AUTHORS
OF THE
KILLING TOOLS
AND THE HAIR
QUEEN.

...AWFUL
?



BUT I
MUST
SOLEMNLY
CONTINUE
WITH
WHAT HAS
BEEN
DECIDED.

WE...

THE
"WITCHY"
FAMILY
THAT
CONTROLS
GOSSIP...

...HAVE
BEEN DOING
IT THIS WAY
FROM
BEFORE THE
TIME OF MY
GREAT-
GREAT-
GRAND-
FATHER.



"WITCH."

..."WITCHY."



...THEN
THE ONE
WHO
REALLY
CAUSED
THE
CURSE...

...WASN'T
THE
QUEEN.

IF THAT
WAS
BASED
ON THE
TRUTH...

...I
SAW
THE
PLAY.

...IS THE
"QUEEN"
REALLY
THE ROOT
OF ALL
THIS?





PLEASE!
DON'T TAKE
AWAY THE
ONE PERSON
THAT MEANS
THE WORLD
TO ME...!





SST
人
...



...I'll
APOLOGIZE
FOR MY
RUDENESS.



TODAY...
I WAS
HOPING
FOR A
QUIET
NIGHT.







...EVERY-
THING ELSE
IS LIKE THE
BYONZAKAS
SAID...

...MOST
OF IT
HAPPENED IN
FRONT OF ALL
THOSE
PEOPLE...
AND WE
DIDN'T SEE
THE ACTUAL
CRIME TAKE
PLACE.



I SEE...



WE WILL
TAKE
CARE OF
THE REST.

...THANK
YOU.

WERE'S
THE PROFESSOR
AT A TIME
LIKE THIS?



NO.

NOT
AT
ALL.

AWA
HA HA
HA HA

I
GUESS...
YOU ARE
JUST A
MIDDLE
SCHOOL
STUDENT.

A
GROWN
WOMAN
ISN'T
THAT
EASY TO
READ.

HE'S
JUST A
KID.

HEH HEH

...I DID...

...THINK
OF HIM
AS AN
ANNOYING
LITTLE
BROTHER.

JUST...

GROWN
WOMAN
?

I
ALWAYS
WORRIED
ABOUT
HIM.

ONE THAT
WOULD GET
INTO SUCH
MISCHIEF
THAT HE
MIGHT
EVENTUALLY
HURT
HIMSELF...

HE
ACTUALLY
DID KILL
PEOPLE...

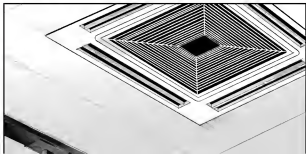
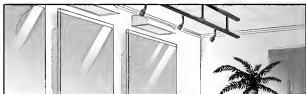
...SO IT IS
IMPRUDENT
OF ME TO
SAY SO...

...TRUE.

...HONEST-
LY, I
ENJOYED
IT.

...AND
BEING
CHOKED
WHILE HE
RAN AWAY
WITH A
SOUR
FACE...

BUT
CHASING
HIM...





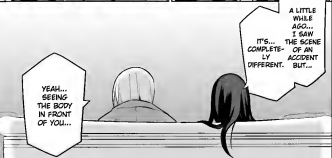
...ISN'T
IT THE
FIRST TIME
YOU'VE
SEEN...
SOMEONE
DIE?

...YEAH...



A LITTLE
WHILE
AGO...
I SAW
THE SCENE
OF AN
ACCIDENT
BUT...

YEAH...
SEEING
THE BODY
IN FRONT
OF YOU...





...HE WAS
MOVING AND
TALKING IN
FRONT OF ME
TIL JUST A
WHILE AGO...

...I
HEARD
HIS LAST
WORDS.



HE
CERTAINLY
IS JUST
LIKE ME.

...I
DONT
REALLY
LIKE IT,
BUT...



IT MADE
ME HAPPY
AND I
WAS
INSPIRED.

...WHEN
I MET
YOU...

...FINALLY,
I KNEW
SOMEONE
WHO
APPRECIATED
ME USING
THE
SCISSORS
THAT
EVERYONE
ELSE HATED
AND FEARED.



EVEN
THOUGH HE
HIMSELF
WAS
INVIGORATED
BY THE
POWER OF
THE KILLING
TOOLS, AS
WELL.

SO WHEN
SOMEONE
POINTED
THAT OUT
TO ME, IT
WAS
IRRITATING.

RUSTLE
U~
...

...WHEN
SOMEONE
SO
SIMILAR
TO YOU
PASSES
AWAY.

...IT'S
REALLY
A
DOWNER
...

YOU
WERE
ANNOYED.

YEAH...

OH...
SO
THAT'S
WHY YOU
WENT
AFTER
HIM SO
EAGERLY.

CLINK

...I
WONDER
IF THAT'LL
HAPPEN
TO ME
SOMEDAY.

...IF I
CONTINUE
USING THE
KILLING
TOOLS...





...I
WANTED
TO TOUCH
HER.



...SO
CUTE.



I THINK...
HOLDING
HER MIGHT
BE BETTER
IN THIS
SITUATION.

SAYING
IT'S
OKAY...
WON'T
MEAN
MUCH.

PLOP

...I'VE
ALWAYS
FELT HER
HAIR,
BUT...

...I'VE
NEVER
TOUCHED
HER BODY
CONSCIOUS-
LY.

...I
THOUGHT I
MIGHT DO
SOMETHING
WRONG.



BUT...

...I CAN'T
HOLD BACK
ANYMORE.



**...I CAN'T
HOLD BACK
ANYMORE.**

BUT...





...KIRI...



...I MIGHT
JUST BE
LONELY AND
CAUGHT UP
IN THE HEAT
OF THE
MOMENT.



BUT IT'S...
PROBABLY
FROM
DEEP IN MY
HEART.





I LOVE
IT ALL.



EVER
SINCE I
MET
YOU...

...I'VE
ALWAYS
BEEN
HAPPY.

YOUR
BODY...
YOUR
HEART.

...YOUR
HAIR.





...NO...

...I
DON'T...
WANT TO
LOSE IT
EITHER...



...FEELING
BE TAKEN
AWAY.

...I
WON'T
LET
THIS...







AAAAA...

I
CAN'T...

YOUR
FOREHEAD
IS... AS
FAR AS I
CAN GO...

KIRI...





...Y...

YES!

...OH.



I AM
ONE
LUCKY
PERSON.



THE
PERSON
I LIKE...

...THE
PERSON
I LOVE...



....HE WILL
DO HIS
BEST TO
BE BY MY
SIDE.

OUR
FEELINGS
ARE ONE
AND THE
SAME.



...I'LL
PUT ON
SOME
CLOTHES
IN THE
MORNING.



WAIT
PATIENTLY
FOR HIM
AND TRY
TO ACT AS
CUTE AS I
CAN.



AND
I'LL HAVE
MY HAIR
CUT.



MY HAIR
THAT
REACHES
ALL THE
WAY TO
THE
FLOOR.



MY HAIR
THAT'S
LONG
ENOUGH
TO DRAG
AROUND.



SEE, MY
FEET ARE
OBSCURED
BY A
SHEET OF
BLACK
HAIR...
...JUST
LIKE THE
FIRST
DAY I
WAS
CURSED.



...HUH?

to be continued









THE SEVERING CRIME EDGE

Volume 3

KADOKAWA MANGA

Story and Art by

Tatsuhiko Hikagi

DANSAIBUNRI NO CRIME EDGE

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